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THE BELL RINGER

Vol. 45 No. 1

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

SEPTEMBER 23, 1988

Student Council Gears Up For Fun Year

by Renard François
The Senior, Junior, and Sophomore class officers went to the Buffalo River Ranch with Mr. Drake. The officers were up there, not to speculate introspectively about the wonders of life, but to plan the activities of the school year which the student council would

sponsor. While staying at the ranch, our fearless leader, John Smithwick, made sure there was no horseplay and we kept our minds on business 100% of the time.

During the first session, the group tried to get a feel for working with each other by doing some skits and some

worksheets together. In the second session the discussion became a lot more lively with such subjects as Duds Day, service projects, Pep rallies, and demerits. There will not be another "Beech" Party. The officers came up with many ideas for Pep rallies, and also there may be an-

other Duds Day in the works. Among the many distractions such as the mouse nipping around the house, the visit by Farmer Joe, two dogs in the house, a visit by some creature on the porch or so Smithwick says, Rhode's Froidean slips, Ronald's midnight attacks, and "You seen

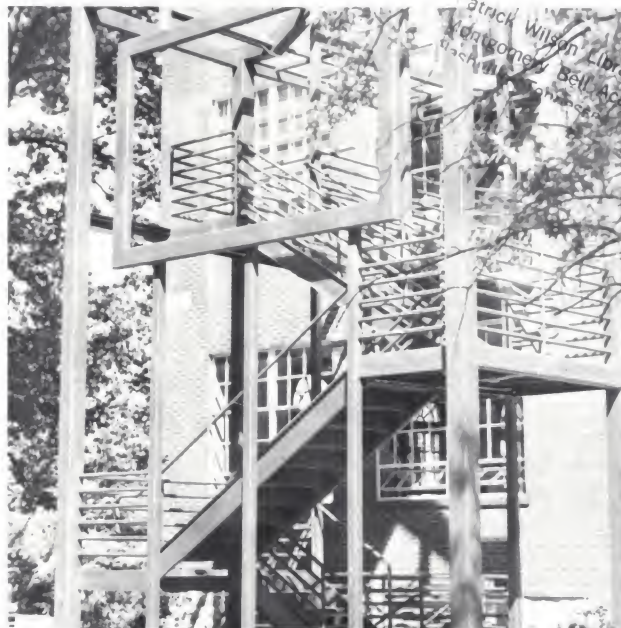
Leroy?," the student council got very much accomplished. Two things are certain about the school year: 1) if the student council goes on another overnight trip Rhodes will stay in the van, and 2) the student council will be more prepared and more organized than in past years.

Honor Council Preview

by Andy Patterson

MBA's Honor Council, under the leadership of president Andy Patterson, vice-president Matthew Dewitt Bumstead, secretary George Crawford, and treasurer Jason Burroughs, is poised to take on the challenge of leading the student body in the upholding of M.B.A.'s revered "honor system." These four fine seniors have a strong supporting cast in junior members George Clements, Oman Sloan, and Brandon Barret, as well as in sophomores Logan Fortner

see Honor page three



Change is the hallmark of the 1988-89 school year. With a new headmaster, we must also have a new fire escape/stairway in the most noticeable place on campus.

Photo by Devraj Bala

Service Club Preview

by George Crawford

With last year's awesome Service Club behind us, it is once again time to look forward to the new year with new and exciting projects. The Service Club calendar will open with a major project in helping with the Fallfest celebration at the Belle Meade Mansion on September 18 and 19. Other major projects during the year will include helping the Salvation Army prepare Christmas presents for needy children during the holiday season and the selling of newspa-

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FEATURES



Editors-in-chief

Jason Burroughs

Marion Southall



A Letter From the Editors

by Marion Southall

Here it is: the first issue of the *Bell Ringer*. Although it may not be the most spectacular newspaper ever written (believe me it is not), it is a good exercise in the ever-troublesome world of being inexperienced and trying to find a new printer one week before school starts. Congratulations to Eveready Printing Company for becoming the new printing company of the *Ringer*. Hopefully, the later issues will not be as late as this one is.

For the *Ringer* this year, we have special plans. As a starter, The Fox's Den will be a "Dear

Abbey," heart-to-heart talk with your man-Renard François. Also, there will be small forum-like chats with you, the MBA student body, to find out what you really think about different issues here on The Hill. Now, these ideas might be enough to satisfy your journalistic appetite. If they are not, and you have some ideas of your own, let us know. Jason and I are always looking for better and bright ideas.

Many student already asked Jason and me how articles can be assigned. For those interested, here is how the

system works.

On a regular basis, an announcement will be made in assembly for a meeting for those who are interested in writing articles. At that meeting only, story ideas and assignments will be given on a first come, first serve basis. The active writer will be given a reasonable period of time to complete his assignment and turn it in to get credit. Turn it in to Jason or me and that is it! We hope you enjoy this issue and remember that the paper gets better each issue.

A Debatable Preview

by Eugene Parks
and Hal Jones

Several members of the MBA debate team participated at prestigious institutes across the country this summer. Among these institutions were Kentucky, Samford, Wake Forest, American, Michigan, Georgetown, and Dartmouth. MBA had three debaters at Dartmouth (two of which are only third year debaters). The Dartmouth debate workshop has yet to turn down an MBA applicant: a fine

accomplishment that only a few debate programs can claim since Dartmouth is the most demanding workshop in the country.

This year's team has been enlightened by new coaching and motivation from within. Babu Parachuri has shown his aspiration by finally using more than monosyllabic words. Under the dictatorship of Johnathan "Adolf" Reeve, the debate team should reach new heights.

Rumor has it that Har-

peth Hall will try to establish a new debate program this year. Mr. Tate does not feel threatened by this fact, however. He remains confident in the ability of the "boyz." Look for MBA to dominate the local circuit (as usual) and to be among the top fifteen teams in the country. If you wish to join the debate team or have any questions, please see Mr. Tate in the debate office. The program is looking for new recruits.

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FEATURES

Boy's State Marches to a Different Beat

by Matt Bumstead

On June 5, John Smithwick and Matt Bumstead journeyed to Tennessee Tech in the beautiful and growing community of Cookeville as MBA's delegates to the 1988 session of American Legion Boys' State. Upon arrival and the heartbreaking "surrendering" of the car keys, the boys were divided into four counties. Each county was then divided into three cities of approximately 50 boys. A daily schedule at camp started with reveille between 5:30 and 6:30 and ended with lights out at 11:00. During the day

there were military formations, classes, athletics, speeches, and meetings of the two parties, Jacksonian and Johnsonian. At these meetings, there was campaigning for city, county, and state offices. The elections were run just as real elections are (the votes were counted after they were placed). One of the most provocative characteristics about Boys State was the fact that the delegates learned how to respond to military commands and how to march (left, right, left).

This knowledge was

tested and challenged many times a day, for wherever the cities went together, they marched. The boy in charge of the marching and general operation of each city was the mayor. Matt Dewitt Bumstead was able to capture enough of the rural vote to win, and therefore was allowed not only to get up first and go to bed last, organize meetings, and take responsibility for his city's actions, but also to lead his city in the marching. "I didn't want to leave without a good office. I thought I could

probably win mayor and I didn't want to spend all week campaigning for a state office, which would be much tougher to win." Smitty, however, went for the big stuff and it paid off. He was elected Secretary of State. "I didn't want to march in the parade," said Smithwick (the parade: a stiff competition in marching between all the city-state officers get to sit in the stands and watch). Other exciting activities throughout the six day trial of nerves included an all-star basketball game, a talent show, and a ball to

which the delegates could invite dates. Bumstead is reported to have attracted a total of seventeen of Tennessee's finest young ladies at this ball, and he literally had to shake them off as they clung to his fancy attire. John enjoyed dancing with the other dateless delegates. All in all, the pair learned a great deal about discipline, leadership, and government. At Boys State John and Matt met many of Tennessee's finest young men and made lasting friendships. It was a truly valuable experience.

Should U.S. Foreign Policy Be Changed?

by Babu Paruchuri

U.S. foreign policy must be reassessed for greater consistency as well as effectiveness. The first step towards a better foreign policy might be an

elimination of the idea that all governments are either good or bad, communist or democratic, and stable or unstable. A perfect example of an error in foreign policy can be spotted

in Nicaragua or, for that matter, all Central America. In Nicaragua, the Reagan Administration branded the Nicaraguan government as communist. President Reagan

pleaded for support for the contras, so-called "freedom fighters"; yet, he did not understand that in addition to the fact that the contras were reportedly abusing human rights and that they were massively outnumbered, they also consisted of some of the same men who were part of the dreaded Somoza regime, a regime, by the way, which the U.S. supported. Somoza and his

family ruled the country as puppets of the U.S. for 40 years, and accumulated 90% of the country as their own property. Thus the administration is backing a rebel group which is connected with one of the most repressive regimes Nicaragua has ever seen. Does this type of policy seem consistent? Hardly so. Under the

FOREIGN POLICY ...
Continued on page four

HONOR...from page one

and Keith Ikard.

I know this year's honor council is eager to work with the student body, the faculty, and Dr. Paschall in upholding M.B.A.'s tradition of

honor. The honor system, however, was founded by students, and the success or failure of the honor system ultimately rests mainly with the student body. If the students are unwilling to uphold the honor code, then there is only so much the twelve hard-working, dedicated indi-

viduals of the honor council can do. We are, therefore, asking YOU - the students of this institution - kindly to cooperate with the honor council this year in any way possible. The honor council is looking forward to a very positive school year. We hope you are, too.

SERVICE...from page one

pers for the Children Hospital on Palm Sunday. There are still many other projects that are still in the works at this point in the promise to add excitement to the year. The Service Club will also help at all of the home football and basketball games this year by tending to jobs from selling tickets to cleaning up after the events.

The leaders of this year's Service Club are president George Crawford, vice-president Chet Frist, secretary/treasurer Rhoads Hall, Sergeant-at-Arms Jonathan Harwell and Frank Drowota and Mr. Bennett as the faculty advisor. All of these officers are looking forward to an exciting year for the Service Club!

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GO BIG RED

FEATURES

FCA Sets Yearly Tone in Extravaganza

by Bobo Malmstein

On August 6, the officers of MBA's chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes got together to plan the Back-to-School Extravaganza. This fun and festive event was to take place on September 3 at Jonathan Harwell's farm. Plans were made, as were trips to Cornersville, TN. The girls from the Harpeth Hall chapter were ready. On the evening of the 2nd, Matt Bumstead and Jonathan Harwell led two volunteers, Chet Frist and the ever-peppy Charles Treadway, to prepare for the event by unloading two volleyball poles

(which they had previously loaded into the Van of Terror) weighing approximately five hundred pounds each. The group returned home after four hours of sleep (waking up Charles in the summer after four hours of sleep is not easy) only to be confronted by rainstorms. The extravaganza was moved to West End Methodist Church where approximately fifty people enjoyed food, drinks, games, sports, skits, testimonies, and a discussion. For all those who came there was sheer enjoyment. Presidents Tina Adams and

Matt Bumstead gave their own personal testimonies to the group. Skits were performed by Vice-President Drew Robison, Treasurer George Clements, Andy Patterson, Richard "The Dog" Arndale, C.B. "Dudley Dog-right" Harwell, and Billy "Dirty Dan" Crawford. The group played two games. The first was the rigorous "Broom-Twist Relay," where one could see the likes of Chris Cigarran, Chet Frist, and Richard Cummings staggering and falling as if they were under the influence of an inmeeting was

a great success, and the tone for the year was set. The splendid mixture of fun and games with serious discussion provided a satisfying and enjoyable atmosphere, and Bo Healy

was quoted as saying "This is fun!" The meetings throughout the year promise to be as fun and rewarding as ever, so if you have not yet tried FCA- Come on!

Change Foreign Policy? continued from page three

Sandinista regime, progress has been made in virtually every sector of life. Many U.S. politicians constantly point out the lack of freedom of speech and other freedoms considered necessary for democracy in Nicaragua; however, due to a lack of space, this article must be cut short. The end will be printed in a later issue. No country has ever been expected to allow full recognition of human rights during times of revolution, in this case the contras. Other conservatives believe the economy is faltering. It may be, but is weak partially as a result of the tremendous pressure from the contras and a war which starves the country of resources. When the Sandinistas overthrew the horrifying Somoza regime, the U.S. losing a puppet ruler, immediately showed disdain for the revolution. It was this

complete lack of support which resulted in Nicaragua's increasing dependence on the Soviet Union as well as Cuba's commitment to the Soviets. Had the U.S. been more openminded, we might now have two allies instead of two enemies. Panama serves as yet another disgusting example of a contradiction in ideologies of U.S. foreign policy. Several allegations have been made that the CIA (headed by George Bush at one point)

was aware of Noriega's involvement in drugs and that it later used Noriega as a cover for funding to the contras as a result of the money made from drug sales. The Medellin Cartel, which is a major source of drugs, has been conclusively proven to be connected with Noriega. The U.S. government has too often judged countries to be our allies or enemies based on whether a country does or does not openly support the U.S. to the will of the people.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Donkeys Throw a Party

by Richard Gann

What happens when you get 14,000 members of the press, 10,000 spectators, and a Liberal from Massachusetts in one city? That's right, the 1988 Democratic National Convention. This year Atlanta had the privilege, or should I say, burden of hosting the four-renunion of America's most active Democrats. While many of you followed the convention on TV, I, along with Chris Cigarran, was fortunate enough to see the event first hand. We arrived in Atlanta on Wednesday, discovered our Thursday morning, and prepared for the convention climax on Thursday night. Entering the doors of the OMNI Convention Hall

at 1:00 gave us plenty of time to wander the halls and browse for souvenirs. Gifts included boxer shorts, buttons, posters, and, perhaps the wittiest, a "Meese is a Pig" T-shirt, on the back of which was a lengthy explanation of Meese's involvement with the Wedtech Corporation. The shirt had almost made my GOP heart chuckle when Rep. Jim Wright (Speaker of the House and Convention Chairman) grabbed my arm, pulled me aside, and tried to sell me his book of aphorisms. I told him that I had already bought my copy from the Mafia booth.

We entered the auditorium around 6:00, just in time to grab a seat. Like many of you at home, we spent the eve-

ning watching the final night of speeches. After Sen. Ted Kennedy's "Where was George?" speech (one wit replied, "George was at home, sober, with his wife,"), I felt a burning compulsion visit the Men's Room. Well, lo and behold, do you know who was standing next to me? It was Susan Estrich, Dukakis' campaign manager. At that point, I knew Dukakis was truly liberal. I wished her well and slid back into my seat just in time to witness Neil Diamond's canned serenade of Massachusetts' most popular immigrant's son. It almost brought a tear to my eye. We watched his highly idealistic speech and the thousands of raging Democrats who believed him.

Richie's Ramble

On the Democratic National Convention



Across the street, the Dukakis/Bentsen Victory Party was already underway. Chris and I, therefore, missed the Stephen Stills performance but remained there long enough to hear the walking Greek caricature speak again.

The overall experience was, however, highly educational. I learned that America's national colors are no longer red, white, and blue. They are now pink, ivory, the beautiful shade of the Carolina sky.



INXS

by Marion Southall

On August 28, the group INXS brought their *Calling All Nations* tour to Nashville, and for the near-sellout crowd that attended, the calling was worth the trip.

Special guest Ziggy Marley and the Melodys made a decent performance. In their fifty minute show, they gave most of the audience a chance to get food, t-shirts, or buttons. Surprisingly, there was a large number of older concert goers (twenty-five and older) who enjoyed Ziggy as much as the "raggae fanatics" who were there. Even when Ziggy ended his show with "Tomorrow's People," it

sounded like a church choir compared to the stars of the show.

From the time INXS appeared on stage until the concert was over, the crowd remained on its feet. Starting the concert with "What You Need," INXS lead singer, Michael Hutchence, made sure the crowd stayed wild and crazy.

INXS's ninety minute show brought back the old songs like "Listen Like Thieves," and "Shine Like It Does" from the old *Listen Like Thieves* album and even "Original Sin" from *The Swing*. After a ten minute standing ovation, one could realize that the concert was good.

SMITHEREENS: an uplifting experience

by Chris Cigarran

On July 3, when they appeared at The Cannery, an up and rising band, The Smithereens, graced the presence of Nashville. After the opening set by Stealin' Horses, the sold-out crowd was more than ready for the show. Starting at 9:00, the band continued into the wee hours of the night with such classic tunes as "House That We Used to Live In", "Cigarette, Cigarette," and many other greats. The show was enhanced by guest appearances during the band's ten minute

break by Will Rambeaux and, yes, you guessed it, Mike "Woody" O'Hare. "Woody," who is said to have kept the crowd staring in awe throughout the performance, was unable to comment after the show due to his own swarm of admiring female fans. Comments on the show by fellow MBA students were all extremely praising of the show: Chris Shea, a long time and avid fan remarked, "The band was excellent, but Woody was fantastic"; Frank Drowota claimed, "Spellbinding, truly

spellbinding"; David Lockyear added, "Wow...." The band's two releases, "Especially For You" and the more recent "Green Thoughts," have turned enough heads to help send this young band into stardom, but hopefully not popdom.

S P O R T S

The Fox's Findings in Football

by Renard François

As August 1 rolled around, yet another chapter of Big Red football was to be opened. With all sixty-two members of the football team (players, coaches, manager and trainer included) anxious to begin working toward the ultimate goals. There are three main goals to be reached: (1) to be a better football player and person than when you started; (2) to win a fourth consecutive district title; (3) to represent MBA at Vanderbilt in the Clinic Bowl. The coaches as well as the players are optimistic and enthusiastic about achieving these goals.

The Big Red Offense this year should be highly explosive. This offense will be detenated by return-

ing QB Drew Robison. Although graduation has taken away all of last year's starting receivers, Bo Healy, Alden Smith, Brad Bishop, and Alex Waddey should be sure-handed targets this year. Teams that just key on the MBA aerial assault are in for a big surprise. Chris Hall, Robert Echols, and Brooks Smith will provide fleet-footedness at tailback, while Rabin Nimmo and Dan Brooks will man the fullback position. The holes will be opened for the backs by an experienced backfield with John Smithwick and Sheldon Griffin at tackles, Lindsay Cooper at guards, and the suave center will be Mike Se-

shul. This core of running backs and experienced line will certainly give the Big Red ample scoring from the ground.

The punting duties will be handled by Brad Bishop, and the field goals will be handled by Pat Harkleroad, who hit the crossbar on a 52-yard field goal attempt at David Lipscomb. The Big Red offense will be a threat from anywhere from the field.

However, the strong point of the team will be the defense. The defense will be led by captains Sheldon "Bull" Griffin, Worcester Bryan, and Brooks Smith. The line will be anchored by "Bull" Griffin at nose guard who was on last year's All-District Defensive Team. Tackles David Trainer and Chris Valahos will compose the first line of defense. This year's linebackers will be more experienced with last year's leading tackler Brooks Smith and the second leading tackler Worcester Bryan. John Smithwick, Dan Brooks, Matt Fisher, and Bo Healy will contain opposing offenses at defensive end. Free safety Alden Smith will be leading a secondary with new cornerbacks Brad Bishop, Andy "Melba" Patterson, Frank Drowota, and Scott Burrow. This year's defense will certainly provide hard-hitting action.

After the first week of practice, the Big Red travelled to David Lipscomb. MBA played its best and came away with a 24-6 victory, thanks in part to a great td catch by Alex

Waddey. In the second week MBA was in for all it could handle against a very physical Columbia team. The Big Red eventually won in overtime, 18-17. The next Thursday was the showdown with Brentwood Academy, which the Big Red lost 49-0. Coach Owen, who will be coaching in his 30th year at MBA, said, "The mark of a great team is its ability to play well in adversity." The next day was the Town and Country Jamboree. After heavy rains, MBA took on Dickson County in the third quarter. Dickson County's TD on their initial drive was all they needed to beat the Big Red 7-0.

The next week MBA faced its first regular season opponent, the Riverdale Warriors. The Big Red knew of the importance of starting the season with a win. Riverdale, however, was looking to avenge last year's 31-13 defeat. In the first quarter the Warriors jumped out to a 7-0 lead. In the second period MBA countered with a 20 yard TD run by Alex Waddey. The "old momentum" was turning to the Big Red's favor until MBA fumbled in the Riverdale endzone. Riverdale then marched 80 yards to score, but then they missed the PAT. Riverdale scored once more before the horn, leaving the first half score Warriors 20, Big Red 7.

After halftime corrections, the Big Red's defense "stuffed" the Warrior offense, holding them to -23 yards rushing in the

second half. The climax of the game was in the fourth quarter with less than five minutes left in the game. The Warriors, locked deep in their own territory, elected to take a safety rather than punt from their endzone. On the ensuing free kick, Alden Smith placed the Big Red in excellent field position. Then Drew Robison engineered a spectacular 52 yard drive which ended with 23 yard Robison strike to Bo Healy. Robert Echols then ran around the right end for two points to make the score Riverdale 20, MBA 17. The defense gave the team and the MBA crowd, which was large for a summer away game, a boost when Billy Frist recovered a Bo Jones fumble on the Riverdale 26 with less than two minutes left in the game. Robert Echols ran 14 yards on the first play, but soon the Big Red found itself with fourth down and one on the four yard line. The line moved the Warriors off the ball, allowing Robison to get the first down. Then Echols plunged into the endzone with nine seconds remaining.

After Pat Harkleroad's PAT the score was MBA 24, Riverdale 20. The defense held on and the Big Red celebrated a remarkable come-from-behind victory, made possible by the team's discipline and the coaches' never throwing the game. Big Red confidence will be high as they travel to White's Creek for their first district contest, September 2.

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S P O R T S

Cross-country Is Running to Be the Best

by Lanson Hyde

The 1988-'89 MBA cross-country promises to be quite successful. The team has a great deal of depth with freshmen Justin Crosslin and Alex Rogers, and sophomores Keith "Boogins" Ikard, Casey Jones, and crowd-pleaser George Reitz. The team is lead by three very out-of-shape senior captains: Jason Burroughs, James "Run for Fun Club President" Gooch, and Lanson "Don't Call Me Lanny" Hyde. Other promising candidates for the top seven are Brent Cummings, Jay Binkley, and Lee Clark. The team has been practicing since August 1 at Percy Warner Park, despite a stirring trial controversy. The Big Red found strength and courage from the immortal words of Coach Bob Pruitt: "I ain't never seen

no horses on them trials...guys. The team travelled to Montgomery Bell State Park, where they met a lifeguard named Amber and had two whole days of grueling two-a-days. It was at camp when the team noticed that there was something different about Lee Clark. Something had happened to Lee over the summer. Lee had become a runner. Lee has continued to surprise teammates and coaches alike with his overwhelming strength and endurance. With the right strategy, Lee could easily finish in the top ten in the state. The team aspires to be state champs but is certain to finish in the top five with five all N.I.L. hopefuls: Ikard, Jones, Hyde, Burroughs, Gooch.



Brandon Barrett shows the true running form.

Photo by Simon Westlake

Golf Preview

by Rick Barksdale

MBA is a blessed school, blessed with good teachers, students, and the best overall Varsity Golf program in the land. Led by returning seniors, Rick "the Bud Man" Barksdale, Rhodes "the Hog" Hall, and Steve "the Clueless Wonder Boy" Mathews, this year's team, with Coach Caldwell at the helm, should hold up that tradition, if not enhance it greatly.

This is, however, a year of transition for the TSSAA golfing members. Significant rule changes took place over the winter and this year

the golf team no longer uses match play in their matches, but instead we switch to stroke play, where we play five players but only score the top four scores. Along with the rule changes came a reorganization of districts placing the formidable Evil Empire on Elliston Place (Father Ryan) in our district.

The golf team is now 2-0, after beating NCS (who did not even show) and Overton. These two early victories hopefully display victories to come in the District, Regional, and State Championships.

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*Good luck to
the football
team in its
quest for
another
district title.*

*from a
friend*

SPORTS

Varsity Football Schedule

Sept. 23.....at Cookeville
 Sept. 30.....Brentwood High
 *Oct. 7.....at Hillwood
 *Oct. 14.....at Father Ryan
 (at Vanderbilt)
 *Oct. 21.....Pearl-Cohn
 (Homecoming)
 *Oct. 28.....Hillsboro

* denotes District Games



Dr. Paschall observes from the sidelines.

photo by Devraj Basu

**Catch MBA
 fever only in
*The Bell
 Ringer***



Coach Owen talks to his troops.

photo by Devraj Basu



Drew Robison practices his top form passes.

photo by Devraj Basu

'89 Tennis

by Oman Sloan

The tennis team will continue its winning ways next year. Bill Cherry will face his fourth and final year of a chance to win the State title. Leighton Thomas, Frank Drowota, Andy Underwood, and Sharpe Belote will complete the top six positions.

Next year, David Fitzgerald, Jackson Ray, Malcolm Sewell, and Andy Stoll will be Freshman, adding a great deal

of depth to the team which also includes Daniel Donelson, Nate Sewell, Andy Coulam, Carter McNabb, Scott Galloway, and David Mason.

The future looks bright to this maturing team. Although it lost a good player in Arthur Henderson, it appears that the M.B.A. tennis team will still be strong in the '89 season.

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